

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of indicating a status of a plurality of features of a data processing system to a user, said method comprising:

displaying a graphical multi-level tree structure, wherein each level in said tree structure includes a textual identification for a respective one of said plurality of features;

monitoring said plurality of features for information regarding said status of said plurality of features, wherein said status for at least a first feature among said plurality of features comprises a plurality of attributes;

displaying a window associated with said multi-level tree structure, wherein said window comprises a plurality of fields for indicating a status of a respective one of said plurality of features;

in said field associated with said first feature, displaying notification indicia for multiple ones of said plurality of attributes.

2. The method of Claim 1, and further comprising determining if said information indicates a normal state or a notification state, wherein said step of displaying a notification indicia for multiple ones of said plurality of attributes comprises displaying notification indicia for only those attributes among said plurality of attributes indicated by said information as being in said notification state.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein:

said determining includes determining a nature of said notification state; and

said step of displaying notification indicia includes displaying an appropriate graphically distinct notification indicia, in response to determining the nature of said

notification state.

4. The method of Claim 3, wherein:

said determining step comprises determining whether said notification state is a warning state or an error state; and

said step of displaying an appropriate graphically distinct notification indicia comprises displaying a warning indicia in response to determining said notification state is said warning state and displaying an error indicia in response to determining said notification state is said error state.

5. The method of Claim 2, and further comprising:

displaying a placeholder icon for each one of said plurality of attributes that said information indicates is in said normal state.

1 6. A data processing system, comprising:

2 a processor;

3 a user interface coupled to said processor, said user interface including a display;

4 and

5 a memory coupled to said processor, said memory including a system resource
6 monitor executable by said processor to display a graphical multi-level tree structure
7 including a textual identification of each of a plurality of features of the data processing
8 system, said status for at least a first feature among said plurality of features comprising
9 a plurality of attributes, wherein said system resource monitor observes said plurality of
10 features for information regarding a status of said plurality of features and displays, in
11 association with said multi-level tree structure, a window including a plurality of fields
12 each utilized for indicating a status of a respective one of said plurality of features, said
13 system resource monitor further displaying, in said field associated with said first feature,
14 a notification indicia for multiple ones of said plurality of attributes.

15 7. The data processing system of Claim 6, said system resource monitor comprising:

16 means for determining if said information indicates a normal state or a
17 notification state; and

18 means for displaying notification indicia for only those attributes among said
19 plurality of attributes indicated by said information as being in said notification state.

20 8. The data processing system of Claim 7, wherein:

21 said means for determining includes means for determining a nature of said
22 notification state; and

23 said means for displaying notification indicia comprises means for displaying an
24 appropriate graphically distinct notification indicia in response to determining the nature
25 of said notification state.

1 9. The data processing system of Claim 8, wherein:

2 said means for determining comprises means for determining whether said
3 notification state is a warning state or an error state; and

4 said means for displaying an appropriate graphically distinct notification indicia
5 comprises means for displaying a warning indicia in response to determining said
6 notification state is said warning state and for displaying an error indicia in response to
7 determining said notification state is said error state.

10. The data processing system of Claim 7, and further comprising:

 means for displaying a placeholder icon for each one of said plurality of attributes
that said information indicates is in said normal state.

11. A program product, comprising:

a computer-usable medium; and

a system resource monitor encoded within said computer-usable medium and executable by a processor of a data processing system to display a graphical multi-level tree structure including a textual identification of each of a plurality of features of the data processing system, said status for at least a first feature among said plurality of features comprising a plurality of attributes, wherein said system resource monitor further observes said plurality of features for information regarding a status of said plurality of features and displays, in association with said multi-level tree structure, a window including a plurality of fields each utilized for indicating a status of a respective one of said plurality of features, said system resource monitor further displaying, in said field associated with said first feature, a notification indicia for multiple ones of said plurality of attributes.

12. The program product of Claim 11, said system resource monitor comprising:

instruction means for determining if said information indicates a normal state or a notification state; and

instruction means for displaying notification indicia for only those attributes among said plurality of attributes indicated by said information as being in said notification state.

13. The program product of Claim 12, wherein:

said instruction means for determining includes instruction means for determining a nature of said notification state; and

said instruction means for displaying notification indicia comprises instruction means for displaying an appropriate graphically distinct notification indicia in response to determining the nature of said notification state.

1 14. The program product of Claim 13, wherein:

2 said instruction means for determining comprises instruction means for
3 determining whether said notification state is a warning state or an error state; and

4 said instruction means for displaying an appropriate graphically distinct
5 notification indicia comprises instruction means for displaying a warning indicia in
6 response to determining said notification state is said warning state and for displaying an
7 error indicia in response to determining said notification state is said error state.

15. The program product of Claim 12, and further comprising:

 instruction means for displaying a placeholder icon for each one of said plurality
of attributes that said information indicates is in said normal state.